UNITED
NATIONS

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Economic and Social Council

Distr.
GENERAL

E/1998/INF/3/Add.1
28 May 1998

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

RESOLUTION AND DECISIONS
adopted by the
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL
at its
RESUMED ORGANIZATIONAL SESSION
FOR 1998

(7 May 1998)

Note: The provisional texts of the resolution and decisions are circulated herein for information. The final texts will be issued in Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 1 (E/1998/98).

98-15023 (E) 080698

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* Decision 1998/202 (see E/1998/INF/3) is hereby renumbered 1998/202 A.

** Decision 1998/210 (see E/1998/INF/3) is hereby renumbered 1998/210 A.

RESOLUTION

1998/2. Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action

The Economic and Social Council

Recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

"Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolutions, in particular resolution 52/100 of 12 December 1997, on follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and full implementation of the Beijing Declaration and the Platform for Action, and agreed conclusions and relevant resolutions of the Commission on the Status of Women and the Economic and Social Council on the follow-up to the Conference,

"Reaffirming the commitments made in the Beijing Declaration[1] and Platform for Action,[2]

"1. Decides that the high-level plenary review to appraise and assess the progress achieved in the implementation of the Nairobi Forward-looking Strategies for the Advancement of Women[3] and the Beijing Platform for Action, five years after its adoption, and to consider further actions and initiatives, should be held as a special session of the General Assembly for five days, from 5 to 9 June 2000;

"2. Decides that the special session should reaffirm the commitment to the Beijing Platform for Action and further focus, inter alia, on obstacles encountered in implementation, as well as on strategies to overcome those obstacles, with a view to fully implementing the Platform, as well as to taking further action and initiatives;

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[1] Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[2] Ibid., annex II.

[3] Report of the World Conference to Review and Appraise the Achievements of the United Nations Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace, Nairobi, 15-26 July 1985 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.85.IV.10), chap. I, sect. A.

"3. Recalls that, in keeping with General Assembly resolution 52/100, the Commission on the Status of Women will serve as the preparatory committee for the review and will be open-ended for the purposes of the preparations;

"4. Decides that the preparatory work, which should be supported by inter-sessional consultations convened by the open-ended Bureau of the Commission on the Status of Women as needed, will be carried out by the Commission at its forty-third and forty-fourth sessions in the years 1999 and 2000, respectively, and that the forty-third and forty-fourth sessions will be extended by five days each to complete the preparations;

"5. Calls upon the Secretary-General in collaboration with the regional commissions to develop a standardized questionnaire with a focused set of indicators on all critical areas of concern as a framework to assist national Governments in their assessment of and reporting on the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action;

"6. Encourages Governments, especially those that have not yet done so, to submit their national plans of action to the Division for the Advancement of Women of the United Nations Secretariat by September 1998 as an input to the start of the review during the forty-third session of the Commission and, in 1999, to submit information on their implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action, focusing particularly on positive actions, lessons learned, obstacles, key challenges remaining and a vision for gender equality in the next millennium;

"7. Invites Governments to prepare their national evaluations on the implementation of the Platform for Action with the involvement of civil society;

"8. Requests the Secretary-General to invite all entities of the United Nations system, including the specialized agencies, funds and programmes, to be actively involved in preparatory activities and to participate at the highest level in the special session, including through presentations on best practices, obstacles encountered and a vision for the future to accelerate implementation and address new and emerging trends;

"9. Encourages appropriate regional preparatory activities for the special session, inter alia, by Governments in cooperation with the regional commissions, and recommends submission of the results as an input to the Commission at its forty-fourth session, in the year 2000;

"10. Invites the Secretary-General to submit to the Commission at its forty-third session, in addition to the documentation already foreseen in the long-term work programme of the Commission for the review and appraisal of the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action, suggestions on further initiatives and actions that might be considered during the review, with attention to mainstreaming gender equality and to common trends and themes across the twelve critical areas of concern;

"11. Requests the Secretary-General to provide in the report on emerging issues to be submitted to the Commission at its forty-fourth session, additional material on further actions and initiatives for the preparation of the outlook beyond the year 2000;

"12. Invites the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women to provide information in 1999 on implementation of the Platform for Action, based on its review of reports of States parties to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women;[4]

"13. Invites the Secretary-General to integrate in his reports information from relevant treaty-monitoring bodies, within their mandates, on their efforts to mainstream a gender perspective;

"14. Requests the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its special session a comparative report on how different categories of projects and programmes of United Nations organizations including women's interests and gender mainstreaming issues and on resources allocated in this regard;

"15. Recommends that the United Nations Development Programme and the World Bank focus on gender issues in the Human Development Report and the World Development Report for the year 2000;

"16. Requests the Secretary-General to provide by the end of 1999 a compilation of updated statistics and indicators on the situation of women and girls in countries around the world by issuing, for example, a volume of The World's Women;

"17. Calls upon States, the United Nations and non-governmental organizations to undertake necessary measures with a view to providing appropriate information to the public on the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and the process of preparations for the special session of the General Assembly;

"18. Emphasizes the important role of non-governmental organizations in implementing the Platform for Action and the need for their active involvement in preparations for the special session as well as the need to ensure appropriate arrangements for their contributions to the special session;

"19. Requests the Secretary-General to make available the necessary resources for the participation of the least developed countries at the special session in accordance with past practice."

5th plenary meeting
7 May 1998

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[4] General Assembly resolution 34/180, annex.

DECISIONS

1998/202 B. Elections to subsidiary bodies of the Economic and Social Council, nominations and confirmations of representatives on the functional commissions

At its 5th plenary meeting, on 7 May 1998, the Economic and Social Council took the following action with regard to vacancies in its subsidiary and related bodies:

Elections

COMMISSION ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT

The following eight Member States were elected for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 1999: BURUNDI, CHILE, CROATIA, GUINEA, HAITI, IRAN (ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF), ITALY and YEMEN.

The Council further postponed to a future session the election of two members from Latin American and Caribbean States for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2000 and one member from Latin American and Caribbean States for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2001.

COMMISSION FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

The following eleven Member States were elected for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 1999: ALGERIA, ARGENTINA, CROATIA, DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, HAITI, IRAN (ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF), SPAIN, SWEDEN, THAILAND and TURKEY.

The Council postponed to a future session the election of three members from African States for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 1999.

COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS

The following fourteen Member States were elected for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 1999: COLOMBIA, FRANCE, LATVIA, LIBERIA, MADAGASCAR, MAURITIUS, MEXICO, NIGER, NORWAY, PAKISTAN, QATAR, REPUBLIC OF KOREA, ROMANIA and UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

The following eleven Member States were elected for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 1999: BELGIUM, BURUNDI, DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA, EGYPT, ITALY, LITHUANIA, MEXICO, MONGOLIA, RUSSIAN FEDERATION, SENEGAL and TURKEY.

COMMISSION ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The following twenty Member States were elected for a three-year term beginning after the Commission's seventh session, in 1999, and expiring at the close of the Commission's session in the year 2002: ANGOLA, BELGIUM, CAMEROON, CHINA, COLOMBIA, CUBA, DENMARK, DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO, GERMANY, GUYANA, ITALY, KAZAKHSTAN, LEBANON, MOZAMBIQUE, NETHERLANDS, PARAGUAY, REPUBLIC OF KOREA, RUSSIAN FEDERATION, THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA and TUNISIA.

COMMISSION ON HUMAN SETTLEMENTS

The following eighteen Member States were elected for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 1999: ARGENTINA, BOLIVIA, BRAZIL, CAMEROON, CHILE, DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO, FINLAND, GABON, IRAN (ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF), JAPAN, LITHUANIA, MALI, PAKISTAN, RUSSIAN FEDERATION, TURKEY, UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA and VIET NAM.

The Council postponed to a future session the election of two members from African States for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 1999.

COMMITTEE ON NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

The following eighteen Member States were elected for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 1999: ALGERIA, BOLIVIA, CHILE, CHINA, COLOMBIA, CUBA, ETHIOPIA, FRANCE, INDIA, IRELAND, LEBANON, PAKISTAN, ROMANIA, RUSSIAN FEDERATION, SUDAN, TUNISIA, TURKEY and UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

The Council postponed to a future session the election of one member from African States for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 1999.

COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS

The Council elected the following nine experts for a four-year term beginning on 1 January 1999: Mahmoud Samir Ahmed (Egypt), Clement Atangana (Cameroon), Virginia Bonoan-Dandan (Philippines), Paul Hunt (New Zealand), Valeri I. Kouznetsov (Russian Federation), Eibe Riedel (Germany), Jaime Alberto Marchan Romero (Ecuador), Nutan Thapalia (Nepal) and Javier Wimer Zambrano (Mexico).

EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND

The following eleven States were elected for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 1999: CANADA, CHINA, DENMARK, FRANCE, GUYANA, PAKISTAN, PARAGUAY, RUSSIAN FEDERATION, SWITZERLAND, UKRAINE and ZIMBABWE.

EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME/
UNITED NATIONS POPULATION FUND

The Council elected the following eleven States for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 1999: BELARUS, CANADA, CUBA, ETHIOPIA, GUATEMALA, INDIA, ITALY, KYRGYZSTAN, SWITZERLAND, UKRAINE and UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

FRANCE and NORWAY will withdraw from the Board effective 1 January 1999 and will be replaced, respectively, by GERMANY for a term expiring on 31 December 2000 and SWEDEN for a term expiring on 31 December 1999.

EXECUTIVE BOARD OF THE WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME

The following six Member States were elected for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 1999: CONGO, DENMARK, HAITI, MOROCCO, SWEDEN and YEMEN.

NORWAY will withdraw from the Board effective 1 January 1999 and will be replaced by the UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND for a term expiring on 31 December 2000.

PROGRAMME COORDINATION BOARD OF THE JOINT AND CO-SPONSORED
UNITED NATIONS PROGRAMME ON HUMAN IMMUNODEFICIENCY VIRUS/
ACQUIRED IMMUNODEFICIENCY SYNDROME (HIV/AIDS)

The following four Member States were elected for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 1999: BRAZIL, GERMANY, RUSSIAN FEDERATION and SPAIN.

DENMARK will withdraw from the Board effective 1 January 1999 and will be replaced by FINLAND for a term expiring on 31 December 1999.

The Council postponed to a future session the election of two members from African States and two members from Asian States for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 1999.

Nominations

COMMITTEE FOR PROGRAMME AND COORDINATION

The following six Member States were nominated for election by the General Assembly at its fifty-third session for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 1999: BENIN, CHINA, EGYPT, JAPAN, REPUBLIC OF KOREA and URUGUAY.

The Council postponed to a future session the nomination of one member from African States for a three-year term beginning on 1 January 1999.

The Council further postponed to a future session the nomination of one member from Western European and other States for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1999.

Confirmations

The Council confirmed the nominations by their Governments of the following representatives on the functional commissions of the Council:

COMMISSION ON POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Olexandr G. Osaulenko (Ukraine)

COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

Françoise Gaspard (France)

COMMISSION ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT

Joseph R. Cobbinah (Ghana)

Appointments

COMMITTEE FOR DEVELOPMENT PLANNING

The Council deferred the appointment of twenty-four members to the Committee pending the outcome of consultations being conducted on General Assembly resolution 50/227.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH AND TRAINING INSTITUTE FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN

The Council appointed Esther María Ashton (Bolivia), Mamosebi Theresia Pholo (Lesotho) and Cecilia Valcárcel Alcázar (Spain) for a three-year term beginning on 1 July 1998.

Elections postponed from previous sessions

COMMISSION ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT

The following three Member States were elected for a term beginning on the date of election: INDIA, REPUBLIC OF KOREA and SLOVAKIA.

In accordance with its decision 1995/312 of 27 July 1995, the Council drew lots to determine the initial terms of office of the elected members from Eastern European States. It was thus decided that the following three States would serve for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2001: RUSSIAN FEDERATION, SLOVAKIA and UKRAINE; the following three States would serve for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1999: BELARUS, BULGARIA and ROMANIA.

The Council further postponed to a future session the election of six members from Asian States and six members from Western European and other States. The drawing of lots to determine the terms of office of members from these regional groups was also postponed until their membership was complete.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL WORKING GROUP OF EXPERTS ON INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS OF ACCOUNTING AND REPORTING

PORTUGAL was elected for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1999.

The Council further postponed to a future session the election of one member from Latin American and Caribbean States for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 1999.

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

The Council elected the following three experts for a term beginning on the date of election: Jesús Martínez Frías (Spain), Manuel Carlos Serrano Pinto (Portugal) and Carlos G. Tomboc (Philippines).

Pursuant to its decision 1996/222, the Council also elected the following experts, nominated by their Governments, for a term beginning on the date of election: Owen MacDonald Kankhulungo (Malawi), Hendrik Martinus Oudshoorn (Netherlands) and Eddy Kofi Smith (Ghana).

The Council further postponed to a future session the election of one expert from Eastern European States for a term beginning on the date of election.

The terms of office of the members will be determined by lot once the membership is complete.

COMMITTEE ON NEW AND RENEWABLE SOURCES OF ENERGY AND ENERGY FOR DEVELOPMENT

The Council elected Johannes Tonderayi Chigwada (Zimbabwe) for a term beginning on the date of election.

Pursuant to its decision 1996/222, the Council also elected Wilhelmus C. Turkenburg (Netherlands) for a term beginning on the date of election.

The Council further postponed to a future session the election of five experts from African States and two experts from Eastern European States for a term beginning on the date of election.

The terms of office of the members will be determined by lot once the membership is complete.

COMMITTEE FOR THE UNITED NATIONS POPULATION AWARD

The following three States were elected for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2000: CAPE VERDE, GRENADA and LESOTHO.

The Council further postponed to a future session the election of one member from African States for a term beginning on the date of election and expiring on 31 December 2000.

1998/210 B. Postponement of consideration of the recommendations contained in the report of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on its sixteenth session

At its 5th plenary meeting, on 7 May 1998, the Economic and Social Council decided to postpone consideration of three of the recommendations contained in the report of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on its sixteenth session[5] and of the statement of the administrative and programme budget implications of those recommendations, submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 31 of the rules of procedure of the Council[6] and took no action on the fourth recommendation contained in the report of the Committee.[7]

1998/211. Enlargement of the Executive Committee of the Programme of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

At its 5th plenary meeting, on 7 May 1998, the Economic and Social Council, recalling General Assembly resolution 116 (XII) of 26 November 1957, in which the Assembly provided for the establishment of an Executive Committee of the Programme of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, as well as Assembly resolutions 1958 (XVIII) of 12 December 1963, 2294 (XXII) of 11 December 1967, 36/121 D of 10 December 1981, 42/130 of 7 December 1987, 45/138 of 14 December 1990, 48/115 of 20 December 1993, 49/171 of 23 December 1994, 50/228 of 7 June 1996 and 51/72 of 12 December 1996, in which the Assembly provided for subsequent increases in the membership of the Executive Committee, took note of the request regarding the enlargement of the Executive Committee contained in the annex to the note verbale dated 14 October 1997 from the Permanent Mission of Mozambique to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General,[8] and recommended that the Assembly take a decision at its fifty-third session on the question of increasing the membership of the Executive Committee from fifty-three to fifty-four States.

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[5] See E/1997/L.23.

[6] E/1998/L.4.

[7] See E/1997/L.23/Add.2.

[8] E/1998/3.